AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1.-80. **(Canceled)**

81. **(Currently amended)** A method for monitoring a response to a therapeutic protocol to treat ~~prevent~~ infection by a hepatitis virus ~~pathogenic agent~~, said method comprising determining the level of a cell surface marker selected from the group consisting of Toll-like receptor-2 (TLR-2) and Toll-like receptor-4 (TLR-4), ~~receptors and homologs thereof~~ wherein the efficacy of said therapeutic response is determined by a change in said level.

82. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 81, wherein said level is compared to a sample selected from the group consisting of a pre-treatment sample and a control sample.

83. **(Canceled)**

84. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 81, wherein said marker is affected in a manner selected from the group consisting of up-regulated and down-regulated.

85. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 81, wherein said marker is determined by analyzing the mRNA or protein associated with said marker.

86. **(Currently amended)** The method of claim 81, wherein said hepatitis virus ~~pathogenic agent~~ is selected from the group consisting of ~~Salmonella, Escherichia, Klebsiella, Pasteurella, Bacillus, Clostridium, Corynebacterium, Mycoplasma, Ureaplasma, Actinomyces, Mycobacterium, Chlamydia, Chlamydophila, Leptospira, Spirochaeta, Borrelia, Treponema, Pseudomonas, Burkholderia, Dichelobacter, Haemophilus, Ralstonia, Xanthomonas, Moraxella, Acinetobacter, Branhamella, Kingella, Erwinia, Enterobacter, Arozona, Citrobacter, Proteus, Providencia, Yersinia, Shigella, Edwardsiella, Vibrio, Rickettsia, Coxiella, Ehrlichia, Arcobacteria, Peptostreptococcus, Candida, Aspergillus, Trichomonas, Bacterioides, Coccidiomyces, Pneumocystis, Cryptosporidium, Porphyromonas, Actinobacillus, Lactococcus, Lactobacillua, Zymononas, Saccharomyces, Propionibacterium, Streptomyces, Penicillum, Neisseria, Staphylococcus, Campylobacter, Streptococcus, Enterococcus, Helicobacter, human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), Varicella-Zoster virus (VZV), herpes simplex virus (HSV), human papillomavirus (HPV),~~ Hepatitis B virus (HBV), ~~Hepatitis A virus (HAV), rhinovirus, echovirus, Coxsackievirus, cytomegalovirus, flavivirus, Ebola virus, paramyxovirus, influenza virus, enterovirus, Epstein-Barr virus, Marburg virus, polio virus, rabies virus, rubella virus, smallpox virus, rubeola virus, vaccina virus, adenovirus, rotavirus~~ and Hepatitis C virus (HCV) ~~and Hepatitis B virus (HBV)~~.

87. (**Currently amended**) A method for monitoring a response to a therapeutic protocol to treat ~~prevent~~ development of a disease condition, said disease condition resulting from infection by a hepatitis virus, said method comprising determining the level of a cell surface marker selected from the group consisting of TLR-2 and TLR-4, ~~Toll-like receptors and homologs thereof~~ wherein the efficacy of said therapeutic response is determined by a change in said level.

88. (**Previously presented**) The method of claim 87, wherein said level is compared to a sample selected from the group consisting of a pre-treatment sample and a control sample.

89. (**Canceled**)

90. (**Previously presented**) The method of claim 87, wherein said marker is affected in a manner selected from the group consisting of up-regulated and down-regulated.

91. (**Previously presented**) The method of claim 87, wherein said marker is determined by analyzing the mRNA or protein associated with said marker.

92. (**Currently amended**) The method of claim 87, wherein said hepatitis virus ~~pathogenic agent~~ is selected from the group consisting of ~~Salmonella, Escherichia, Klebsiella, Pasteurella, Bacillus, Clostridium, Corynebacterium, Mycoplasma, Ureaplasma, Actinomyces, Mycobacterium, Chlamydia, Chlamydophila, Leptospira, Spirochaeta, Borrelia, Treponema, Pseudomonas, Burkholderia, Dichelobacter, Haemophilus, Ralstonia, Xanthomonas, Moraxella, Acinetobacter, Branhamella, Kingella, Erwinia, Enterobacter, Arozona, Citrobacter, Proteus, Providencia, Yersinia, Shigella, Edwardsiella, Vibrio, Rickettsia, Coxiella, Ehrlichia, Arcobacteria, Peptostreptococcus, Candida, Aspergillus, Trichomonas, Bacterioides, Coccidiomyces, Pneumocystis, Cryptosporidium, Porphyromonas, Actinobacillus, Lactococcus, Lactobacillua, Zymononas, Saccharomyces, Propionibacterium, Streptomyces, Penicillum, Neisseria, Staphylococcus, Campylobacter, Streptococcus, Enterococcus, Helicobacter, human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), Varicella-Zoster virus (VZV), herpes simplex virus (HSV), human papillomavirus (HPV),~~ Hepatitis B virus (HBV), ~~Hepatitis A virus (HAV), rhinovirus, echovirus, Coxsackievirus, cytomegalovirus, flavivirus, Ebola virus, paramyxovirus, influenza virus, enterovirus, Epstein-Barr virus, Marburg virus, polio virus, rabies virus, rubella virus, smallpox virus, rubeola virus, vaccina virus, adenovirus, rotavirus~~ and Hepatitis C virus (HCV) ~~and Hepatitis B virus (HBV)~~.

93.-136. (**Canceled**)

137. (**Previously presented**) The method of Claim 81, wherein the change in the level of said cell surface marker is indicative of whether a subject will respond to a therapeutic intervention.

138 (**Previously presented**) The method of Claim 81, wherein the change in the level of said cell surface marker is predictive of an outcome of a therapeutic protocol.